(b) the number of pilots trained in this Akademy during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the norms and criteria for admission and the encouragement from Government to this institution?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The expenditure incurred on Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Udan Akademy was Rs. 317.37 lakhs in 1992-93, Rs. 239.15 lakhs (provisional) in 1993-94 and Rs. 225.69 lakhs (provisional) in 1994-95.

(b) IGRUA trained 22 pilots in 1992-93 and 27 each in 1993-94 ad 1994-95.

(c) The norms and criteria for admission to IGRUA are as follows:

(i) No upper age limit.

(ii) 10+2 with Physics and Maths.

(iii) The trainee must hold valid Indian Private Pilots Licence.

(iv) Current medical fitness certificate of Commercial Pilots Licence standard issued by Indian Air Force, Central Medical Establishment, New Delhi or Institute of Aviation Management, Bangalore.

The Government encourages the Akademy by providing grants-in-aid for its smooth functioning.

Economically viable Air India routes

5211. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the routes of the Air India are economically viable;

(b) if not, the number of routes which are not economically viable alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to make these routes economically viable?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) All routes on which passenger services are operated by Air India, have recorded cash surplus during 1992-93 and 1993-94. Air India is constantly trying to upgrade its product and improve on time performance and passenger amenities in order to increase its revenue earnings on all routes operated by it.

Losses to Indian Airlines due to bird hits

5212. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) how many bird hits have taken place to Indian Airlines flights during 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95;

(b) what is the total estimated loss during these years from bird hits including the expenditure to be incurred on accommodating passengers in hotels, cancellation of flights etc;

(c) what are the concrete steps taken to avoid bird hits; and

(d) how does the incidents of bird hits in India compare to the other countries?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Details in respects of Indian Airlines are as under:—

year	No. of bird hits	Total loss (in lacs)
1992-93	71	57.03
1993-94	105	164.50
1994-95	102	9.95 (provisional)

(c) Action Plans have been formulated and Airfield Environment Management Committees (AEMC) formed at the airports to take steps for prevention of